

# NMPS Sailor Receives Bronze Star

Story and Photo by MC3 Jessica Pounds

A Sailor stationed aboard Sewells Point Branch Medical Clinic at the Navy Mobilization Processing Site was presented with the Bronze Star Medal on April 30 for his actions during Operation Enduring Freedom.

In the fall of 2008, Hospital Corpsman 2nd class (FMF) Johnnie Gouge, 24, was serving as the senior medical advisor for the Afghan National Police during an attack of the Forward Operating Base in Zormat, Afghanistan. While under small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire, Gouge took a defensive position on a barracks roof and called out the position of enemy forces that had advanced within 500 meters of the FOB

He withstood explosions from 14 rockets that came within 100 meters of his position. He never backed down.

"In my opinion I was just doing what I was trained to do and nothing more," said Gouge. "It's instilled in the mind of all corpsmen to value other peoples' lives over your own in instances like these."

Gouge's actions saved lives and were essential to providing accurate counter-mortar fire and repelling the enemy's attack.

Gouge also aided in the cap-



Rear Adm. William R. Kiser presents the Bronze Star Medal to HM2(FMF) Johnnie Gouge.

ture of a high priority Taliban Sub Commander after an attack on a local national construction site.

"Witnesses said that the attacker had fled," said Gouge. "I spotted him running through a nearby village, which led to his capture."

Gouge was surprised to receive the Bronze Star Medal.

"It's hard for me to believe that someone out there thought that I deserved an award of this magnitude," said Gouge. "The greatest award that I have received in my naval career is not the medal itself, but rather knowing that the people that I have helped were able to get back home with their families, and that's enough for me."

Gouge is a native of Valier,

Ill., and now lives in Virginia Beach. He is a six and a half year veteran of the Navy and serves as a leading petty officer for his division at NMPS. His primary responsibility is to make sure that deploying Sailors are physically fit before they go overseas.

Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman (SW/FMF) Eric Shank works with Gouge at NMPS.

"HM2 Gouge is truly an outstanding Sailor, he helps coordinate and run a process through which 40 to 50 percent of the Navy's deployed personnel pass through," said Shank. "He understands what they are about to go through and he provides excellent support before they leave and when they return."

# A Tree Grows in Portsmouth

Photo by MC2(SW/AW) William Heimbuch



Naval Medical Center Portsmouth celebrated Arbor Day on April 24 as hospital Commander Rear Adm. William R. Kiser and his wife, Geraldine Kiser, joined Lt. Cmdr. Kreg Everleth (right), head, Base Operations Medical Installations Department, and Floyd Carlsen (left), grounds work leader and gardener, for the planting of a Flame Maple. This tree is the last of 15 maples and 15 black pine trees planted along the hospital's waterfront this spring.

#### The Courier

The Courier is an authorized publication of Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, 620 John Paul Jones Circle, Portsmouth, VA 23708. The Courier is published monthly by the Public Affairs Office.

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**Deputy Commander** Capt. Craig L. Bonnema Staff Photojournalists MC1 Justin Thomas MC2 William Heimbuch MC3 Jessica Pounds Public Affairs Officer Deborah Kallgren

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This publication provides an avenue to circulate all useful information the NMC Portsmouth staff has to offer. Submissions are welcome. Contact the Public Affairs Office by calling 953-7986, by fax at 953-5118, or by emailing the PAO, Deborah Kallgren, at deborah.kallgren@med.navy.mil. Submissions should be in Word format. Photos should be a separate submission from the document and in jpeg, bitmap or tiff format. PAO is located in Building One, Third Deck, Rm. 311.

# NMCP Fisher House Renovated

Story by Deborah Kallgren Photos by Jessica PoundsMC3

The Fisher House at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth celebrated its grand re-opening with a ceremony and open house on Wednesday, April 22, at 10 a.m.

The ceremony included remarks from Fisher House Foundation representatives and Darnell Randolph about his experience as a guest at the Fisher House.

The Fisher House at Portsmouth opened in June 1995 and was the first in Virginia. It has provided temporary to approximately lodging families and guests while their loved ones were hospitalized. Renovations began in September 2008 and were complete enough in February for guests to resume staying there. The interior spaces have been updated and repainted, and rooms have new curtains, linens and flooring. Finishing touches culminated with a renovation of the flower beds this weekend.

The Fisher House is "a home away from home" for families of patients receiving medical care at the hospital. There are 43 Fisher Houses worldwide, all located within walking distance of







a major military or VA medical center. The Fisher House at NMCP can accommodate seven families who are visiting their loved ones at the hospital. Guests stay for free at the Fisher House.

The Fisher House program began in 1990 when Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher offered to build and donate to the government comfort homes on the grounds of military medical centers to permit service members to be close to their families during a hospitalization.

# Civilian Help Wanted at NMCP

Story by Deborah Kallgren and MC2(SW/AW) William Heimbuch

Since last May, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Managed Business Solutions and KGS Government Solutions have teamed up to attract and recruit new civilian staff to fill health care positions at the hospital.

"Many people do not know nearly two-thirds of the hospital's staff are actually civilian employees," said Lt. Cmdr. Brian Carman, head of NMCP's Human Resources department. "With the operational deployment tempo continuing to increase, NMCP is presented with a unique challenge in developing an aggressive and proactive civilian recruiting campaign."

NMCP, MBS and KGS have focused their recruiting to answer the big question potential employees ask: Why work at NMCP instead of one of the many civilian hospitals in Hampton Roads?

"We conducted an independent survey and our average registered nurse salary, for

STAND BESIDE THOSE WHO SERVE

example, was at a minimum equal to or greater than the median salary of other similar facilities in local labor market," said Carman, "and that is without adding the benefits package, which is pretty substantial in comparison to

similarly sized civilian facilities."

In similar studies, NMCP discovered that many nurses who had previously worked in town before joining NMCP felt a sense of patriotism working in the military medical environment. "We are a family here at NMCP," said Carman.

"The staffing here is 100 times better and (NMCP) is a great place to work," said Misty



Photo by MC2(AW/SW) William Heimbuch

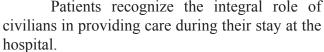
Above, Nurse Misty Roquemore with a patient. Below, one of the billboards Naval Medical Center Portsmouth is using to encourage civilians to apply for jobs at the hospital.

Roquemore, a registered nurse in NMCP's labor and delivery unit. "The doctors respect the nurses a lot more here.

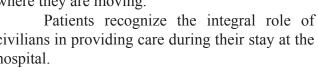
> "Civilians here are the backbone, we fill in the gap when the active duty staff deploys," Roquemore added.

addition, civilians In working at a Navy hospital who are married to active duty members find it easier to find jobs at another military hospital when the service member transfers to a new duty station. They are allowed to transfer with him or Photo by Kenexa Government Solutions her to a hospital around the area

where they are moving.



"They know what they are doing," said Marie DeJesus, who recently delivered her second child at NMCP and is an intensive care unit nurse.



Continued on page 6

### **NMCP Remembers Victims of the Holocaust**

Story by Deborah Kallgren and MC2(SW/AW) William Heimbuch

Naval Medical Certer Portsmouth, on April 18, commemorated Holocaust Remembrance Day by welcoming Irene Weisberg Zisblatt, a Holocaust survivor, to the hospital. Staff members filled the auditorium to hear her story.

Zisblatt and her five siblings grew up in the Carpathian Mountains of Hungary. In 1942, when she was 11, her mother sewed four diamonds into the hem of her skirt before the Nazis whisked her away to the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Poland. Her mother told her to use the diamonds to buy bread if she was ever hungry. Zisblatt still has those diamonds; she swallowed and retrieved them every day she was imprisoned.

Zisblatt witnessed and was subject to Nazi atrocities. Upon entering Auschwitz, the infamous Dr. Josef Mengele chose Zisblatt as one of his "guinea pigs." Mengele was a German SS officer and physician nicknamed the "Angel of Death" for the painful and inhumane experiments and surgeries he performed without anesthesia on Jews in the prison camp.

Zisblatt survived Auschwitz and Mengele's experiments, and witnessed her family being led to their deaths in the gas chamber. She was sent to two more death camps, a labor camp and then endured a two-month death march. She told the audience she watched thousands unable to keep up die of exhaustion or be shot by the Nazis.

It was a world where "a human life had no value." Zisblatt said. One foggy night, she and a friend managed escape and lived in the woods while. for a liberated Gen. George Patton's Third 1945



Soon, they were liberated by Gen. George Patton's Third Army on June 7, 1945

NMCP CMC HMCM Jeffery Kirstein presents a plaque from the hospital to Zisblatt for her dedication to being "a voice for her fellow prisoners" and keep their memory alive.

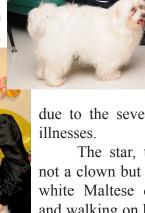
Zisblatt believes she managed to survive "to tell the story." Zisblatt vowed that if she survived, shewould be avoice for her fellow prisoners. But it was not until her son asked her about the Holocaust that she was ready to share her story.

"For 50 years, I didn't say a word. I didn't want my children to live with my pain," she said. Now Zisblatt lives in Florida and speaks to groups across the country to ensure the suffering of the millions killed and imprisoned in concentration camps is not forgotten. She has written a memoir, "The Fifth Diamond: The Story of Irene Weisberg Zisblatt."



## The Circus Comes to NMCP's Peds Ward

Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus visited Naval Medical Center Portsmouth's pediatric ward and clinic on April 16 to entertain the sick children, many of whom would not be able to attend the circus



due to the severity of their

The star, though, was not a clown but a furry little white Maltese doing tricks and walking on his hind legs shaking paw/hands with the children and bringing smiles wherever he and his trainer went



# Help Wanted (cont'd from page 4)

"As a nurse myself, I can tell if they are doing something wrong, and they're great, and very professional."

Roquemore is one of many civil service employees who work at NMCP. The hospital's partnership with KGS and MBS is streamlining hiring so civilian jobs available at NMCP – from receptionist to operating room nurse - can be filled quickly.

"We have more than 200 current vacancies that range from clinical to administrative to mechanical. We are looking for all different types," said Carman. "Anything you can think of that makes the hospital run."

KGS and MBS help the hospital develop business practices to streamline recruitment and hiring. Efforts to increase community awareness that a naval hospital employs civilian employees are already paying off.

While Hampton Roads has a large concentration of active duty, veterans and

military retirees, the benefits of working at the naval hospital are not well-known. Part of the recruitment effort raises that awareness in the community. Using the slogans, "Medicine with a Mission" and "Stand Beside Those who Serve," billboards are strategically positioned throughout the area focusing on the unique attributes NMCP offers a civilian employee.

Motorists who see the billboards are directed to the Web site www.navymedical. jobs to learn more about working in the unique environment at NMCP. The recruitment effort has been so successful that it may be expanded to other military hospitals.

"Navy Medicine East is considering expanding the program to other naval hospitals along the East Coast," said Carman. "Economies of scale can make this program much more efficient and effective if other naval hospitals and clinics join the recruitment effort."

# NMCP Brings NMCRS Fund Drive to a Successful Conclusion

By MC2(SW/AW) William Heimbuch

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth and the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society successfully concluded the 2009 NMCRS fund drive on April 17, after a two-week extension, raising more than \$1.5 million in a month and a half.

The NMCRS is a nonprofit organization whose programs are totally funded by the charitable contributions of Sailors and Marines.

Donations from Sailors and Marines fund NMCRS aid to Sailors, Marines and their families since 1904. "By our own, for our own and among our own," is the NMCRS motto.

This year NMCP Commander Rear Adm. William R. Kiser was selected as the Chair for the NMCRS active duty fund drive for the Mid-Atlantic Region. NMCP spearheaded the Hampton Roads drive for funds that will aid Sailors and Marines for the remainder of the year.

Since its establishment, the NMCRS has come to the

Remember loved ones lost to the disease

Fight Back against a disease that takes too much.

rescue of more than 4.5 million military members, giving out \$1.1 billion in interest-free loans and grants. Programs and loans offered by the society to help military members include the visiting nurse program, emergency financial aid, education tuition assistance, interest free loans, grants, disaster relief, and food lockers.

"It has grown to be an organization that gives out more money than it takes in, in donations," said NMCP Deputy Commander, Capt. Craig Bonnema. "The overhead cost is essentially zero dollars because they come from outside funding. The donations all go directly to Sailors and Marines!"

A recognition ceremony to honor the hard work and dedication that went in to this year's drive will be held at Naval StationNorfolk's Vista Pointclub June 18 at 11:30 a.m.

To learn more about the NMCRS or make a contribution of as little as a dollar a month, go to www.nmcrs.org, or contact your local NMCRS office.

### **Contact your local NMCRS**

NMCRS Portsmouth - 953-5956 NMCRS Dam Neck - 492-6449 NMCRS Little Creek - 462-1596 NMCRS Norfolk - 322-3134/1171 NMCRS Northwest - 421-8210 NMCRS Oceana - 433-3383

Most offices are open between 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m



Join NMCP's team "Lifesavers" and help support life with Relay for Life: Elizabeth River, Portsmouth City Park June 5-6, 2009

# Tactical Combat Casualty Care Training

Story by Jacky Fisher, Photos by MC3 Jessica Pounds

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth is now an accredited training hub for the East Coast to teach soon-to-deploy medical personnel – officer and enlisted – how to provide lifesaving medical procedures in the environment in which injury occurs: the battlefield.

Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) is a three-day training course with classroom study and hands-on medical care in a simulation laboratory with mannequins. It concludes in a simulated combat environment in the rough terrain of Fort Story's obstacle course in Virginia Beach. Designed to prepare forward-deploying corpsmen to be the "Doc" on scene for wounded Marines and Soldiers serving downrange, often in harm's way, TCCC is a compact and intensive training

course that results in lives saved in combat zones. Regardless of the medical echelon assigned to, all military medics are Echelon I medics.

The "O" course turned hostile combat environment at Fort Story uses Improvised Explosive Device (IED) explosions, the hammering sounds of small-arms fire and trainers rattling off the battle scenario to the "Doc" who is clad from head to toe in protective gear, a medical kit and a rifle. Various emergencies are played out, including dragging an unconscious 200-pound Marine off the "X" to a safe, protected spot before administering first aid under fire.

Combat casualty care was based on civilian trauma standards. For nearly 35 years, this was the foundation on which Emergency

Medical Treatment (EMT) was taught. Then the world environment changed: Military missions became more complex, lengthy and dangerous. Along with the changing environment, wounds – war wounds – became more catastrophic. Civilian trauma strategies no longer worked and military medicine had to adapt to meet the new harsh and dynamic demands.

"I returned from Al Taqaddum in 2005 and I realized the need to create this training course based on my experience of providing medical care in the most austere and sometimes hostile environments," said Cmdr. Thomas Craig, Medical Corps, Associate Director of NMCP's Professional Education Emergency Medicine, and founder of NMCP's TCCC training course.

"As an emergency medicine doctor I worked in a lot of trauma centers and knew a lot going into Iraq," Craig reflected. "But I learned a lot of things that civilian trauma centers or books can't prepare you for."

Craig's tour in Iraq was the impetus that forced TCCC back to the drawing board. In 1996, proposed combat care techniques based on Special Operations were published, but not accepted, by military medicine. In 2007, the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) recognized the difference between civilian and Special Operations combat care and endorsed TCCC. Today, one of the three authors of the 1996 publication, Tactical Combat Casualty Care in Special Operations, Capt. Frank Butler Jr., Medical Corps, USN (ret), serves as an advisor to NMCP's TCCC course

Between Craig's 2005 Iraqi tour and BUMED's 2007 endorsement, a grassroots effort began to bring military trauma care into the 21st century. Lessons learned were gathered, techniques were analyzed, front line combat care experiences were shared by veteran corpsmen (usually doctors and nurses do not serve that far forward), and TCCC started to take shape.

### (Cont'd from previous page)

Techniques once believed to be dangerous became a staple for battlefield medicine, like applying tourniquets. Standard Operating Procedures for medical attention were reset. The ABC's – Airway, Breathing, Circulation – clearing the airway and administering CPR is the standard for civilian care environments. Not so for a corpsman tending to the wounded in a hot zone while taking fire.

In care-under-fire environments, security is the best lifesaving technique: gaining fire superiority. Next, control bleeding; tourniquets, still not the best long-term solution for hemorrhage control, have been credited for saving lives and limbs when used properly. Then the airway is checked. This is known as MARCH: Massive Bleeding, Airway, Respirations, Circulation, Head (injuries).

NMCP has sent health care providers downrange in earnest since 2003 when the first Fleet Hospital was established in Kuwait. It is common for a health care provider who's had two or three individual augmentee (IA) tours to now be a TCCC student preparing for yet another tour.

Lt. Shelly Maurer, Director, Tactical Combat Casualty Care for NMCP and TCCC co-founder, is a combat veteran nurse. She deployed without the benefit of TCCC training and served as an Enroute Care Nurse in Afghanistan. "When I was deployed, I had a couple of unique opportunities to witness the level of exper-

tise required of the corpsmen who were at patients' sides the minute they got injured," said Maurer. "I was amazed at the ingenuity of these guys and I realized how little knowledge we actually

pre-loaded them with when they were sent into these environments."

Maurer's experiences during her tour in Afghanistan helped create and form TCCC training. "TCCC is unique in that it is based on knowledge gained by military service members downrange," explained Maurer. Corpsmen "are looking their (injured) buddies in the eye as they lie there depending on them. They think, 'I wish someone had taught me how to...'. I want to be that someone."

NMCP has conducted TCCC training since August 2007 and plans to put as many as 400 health care providers through this now-required training annually. Maurer takes the mission seriously and to heart.

"As a Navy nurse, my mission is ultimately to train Navy corpsmen to be an extension of the doctors and nurses who can't be in the battlefield with our troops," she said. "When I teach them a new skill or lifesaving technique, I picture a loved one hunkered down in a foxhole somewhere, bleeding out with life-threatening injuries. I can't be there, so I try



to give those corpsmen as much knowledge as I can in a way that allows them to save that life. That is my mission." For every wounded service member who returns home to their family, it's a victory for Maurer and Naval Medicine.

The TCCC curriculum, finally recognized, endorsed and established with BUMED's blessing, is dynamic. Health care providers like Craig and Maurer and a stream of returning corpsmen are relentless in keeping TCCC current and viable. Maurer said new techniques based on current research are brought back every day from the front lines.

While the course is still considered in its infancy, the attrition of instructors was anticipated. NMCP developed its own instructor training course for TCCC to ensure the training remains self-sufficient and on line.

"Since the inception of TCCC, we have battle-readied 300 health care providers to forward deploy with combat forces," said Craig. "Even if U.S. troops completely pull out of the Middle East, who's to say when or where the next front line will be. Naval Medicine needs to always be prepared to serve anywhere."

# **NMCP Sailors Paint the Town**

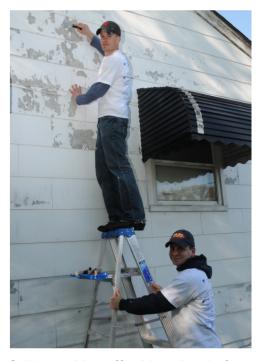
Story by Deborah Kallgren and MC2(SW/AW) William Heimbuch Photos by MC2(SW/AW) William Heimbuch

More than 100 Sailors from Naval Medical Center Portsmouth and its clinics painted their hearts out in April. From 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Sailors and about 250 additional volunteers restored 11 homes of low-income, elderly Portsmouth residents who otherwise would not have been able to repair their homes.

"Paint Your Heart Out" is an annual community service project the Portsmouth Rotary Club established a decade ago. The volunteer project helps Portsmouth homeowners who could no longer make the needed repairs to their homes due to financial or physical limitations.

"I just feel it is good to give back to the community," said HM2 Vicki Cray-Craft. "I took my two boys with me to show them what it feels like to help others and to learn to pay it forward."

Since its inception in 1995, the project has helped repair more than 135 Portsmouth homes. In the beginning, the project was solely about painting houses. As the number of volunteers increased each year, the project began taking on exterior repairs, debris removal, roofing and caulking windows in addition to painting.



Sailors chip off old paint before adding a fresh coat to the house.

Homeowners find out about the project in the newspaper. The Rotary Club places notices alerting homeowners to sign up. Then the Rotary Club evaluates the submissions and select homeowners who are most in need of help.

Through donations, the Rotary Club provided the paint and materials for this year's projects.

"If it wasn't for the Portsmouth Rotary Club starting this program then none of this would be possible," said HMC Dorothy Walker.

Walker recruited the Sailors who volunteered and was in charge of one of the houses assigned to the Sailors from the naval hospital. She says this was her ninth year of "paying it forward" with the

Rotary Club.

"It's going to take all of us helping out to get this world back into the shape it needs to be in," said Walker. "Everyone needs to do their part; it could be the smallest thing in the world just as long as you do something!"

"This one-day effort is a means for less fortunate individuals to have work completed by community volunteers free of charge. It is a true example of 'service above self,' the Rotary motto," said Burle Stromberg, "Paint Your Heart Out" project manager.

# **Record High Blood Donations** in a Time of Critical Need

NMCP's Armed Services Blood Program recently hit a record high in blood and platelet donations. On March 24-25, the ASBP blood drive with the U.S.S. George H. W. Bush received 276 units of blood and screened 356 Sailors.

Donated blood and platelets are stored for hospital use as well as sent overseas for service men and women wounded in Afghanistan and Iraq. Platelet donations are used here at the hospital for patients who have been diagnosed with Leukemia, premature infants, patients who require surgery or have Aplastic Anemia.

Blood and platelet donations are always in short supply due to the demand and the short shelf life of the blood products; platelet donations are

viable for only five days. After testing, the shelf life is reduced to as little as three days.

There is still a critical need at NMCP for A-positive platelet donors, though all types are appreciated. The platelet donation process can only take up to two hours.

If you wish to make a big difference in the life of a fellow shipmate, dependent or a retiree, call the Apheresis department at 953-1717 or 1730 to set up a time to donate platelets or give blood. Appointments are scheduled between 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday for platelets. Whole blood can be donated seven days a week.

# Celebrating 10 Years of Charette **Health Care**

Story by Public Affairs Office

On April 30, the Charette Healthcare Center marked 10 years of care to its patients. NMCP Commander, Rear Adm. William Kiser, led a cake-cutting ceremony in the galley to commemorate the milestone.

"If you were here at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (10 years ago), odds are you were caught up in the excitement of the grand opening of Building 2, the Charette Healthcare Center, named after HMCM William R Charette who earned the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry, courage, and selflessness in support of From left, Capt. Craig Bonnema, Deputy his shipmates in Korea in 1953," said Kiser

"Today, 30 April 2009, marks the 10th birthday of that opening. In those 10 years we have provided quality health care at this state-of-the-art hospital. We have provided exemplary medical education at this academic medical center. And you have provided the caring and compassionate



Photo by Dann Benton

Commander; Rear Adm. William R. Kiser, Commander, and Command Master Chief Jeffery Kirstein cut the cake celebrating the first 10 years of NMCP's Charette Health Center.

medical care that we are renowned for, directed to those we are blest to serve," said Kiser.

# **Bravo Zulu!**

### **Bronze Star Medal** HM3 Johnnie Gouge, Jr.

### **Meritorious Service Medal**

Capt. Gene Vandervort Capt. Sandra Saunders Cmdr. Jorge Graziani Lt. Cmdr. Martin Kerr Capt. Arthur George Capt. John Kirby

### Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal

Lt. Cmdr. Sue Howell ITC(SW) Richard Byrne Lt. Cmdr. William Wallace HM1(SW) Steven Davis Lt. Cmdr. Lisa Rose Lt. Tabassum Rahman-Rawlins Lt. Cmdr. Debra Murray Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Carter HM3 Shanon Fortolis Lt. Cmdr. William Wilson HM2 Brandon Johnston Lt. Cmdr. Mary Brafford HM2 Mary Schmidt Lt. Frank Tratchel HM2 Dulce Perezroman Cmdr. Thomas Craig Cmdr. Richard Makarski

### **Army Commendation Medal**

Lt. Cmdr. Sue Howell

### Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal

Lt. Camia LasDulce HM2(FMF) Joseph Bowman HM3 Marquitta Howard CS2 Ileene Sanchez HM1(FMF) Stacy Trimner HM1(SW/AW/FMF) Mary Matthews HM3 Pamela Bogar IT1(SW) Demetrius Harden Lt. j.g. Jefferey Rockett HM3 Heather George HM2(SW) Christina Crawford Lt. Mark Horning HM1(FMF/CAC) Eric Smith SK2 Sean Jeffords HM2(SW/FMF) Gary Lane ITC(SW) Richard Byrne Lt. Cmdr. Cambrai Reed

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HM2 Dawn Watkins
HM2 Ella Christ
HM3 Kurt Francis
Lt. j.g. Edward Cavanaugh
Lt. Owen Villalta
Lt. Eugene Smith, Jr.
HM2(SW/AW) Yashonda Strong
HM3 Jennifer Hunter

### **Letter of Commendation**

PS3 Jessica Goines HN Adam Robles HN Jordan Blas Hulda Thigpen HN Katie Piedra MA2 Michael Black HN(FMF) Jonathan Howard HM2 Latova Thomas HN Arnell Jackson HN Kyle Mack Ofelia Barrera SHSN Jasmin Marable ET1(SW) David Flick ET2(SW) James Amos ET2 William Berweger IT2 Brandon Grubbs ET2 Carl Reams IT3 David White ITSN Althena Nelson ITSA Heather Allward ITSA John Ricks FC2 Amanda Nelson SHSN Jasmin Marable **HN Marq Martinez** HM1(SW) Richard Laxa HM2 Samuel Winston, Jr. HN Joshua Lukacovic **HN Chasity Scott** HM1(SW) Robert Beverly Lt. j.g. Jefferey Rockett HM1 Joseph Nicholls Lt. Cmdr. Jennifer McKinney Lt. Michelle Maurer **HM3** Gregory Young Bonita Brunner Marybeth Shortt

### **Letter of Appreciation**

CS2(SW/AW) Atinuke Olaleye

HM2(SW) Valerie Griggs

HM2 Mara Madrazo

HN Marq Martinez

Dana Keeling **HA Jeremy Carter** HN Amanda Bitter HN James Lynch HN Jessica Cox **HN Robert Casey** HN Kara Fennell HA Krystal Price HM2(SW/AW) Yashonda Strong HM2 Brylan Riggins HM2 Jennifer Pfammatter HM2(FMF/SW) Freddy Mejia HM2(SW/AW) Shannon Stewart MA2 Breanna Torres HM2 Karla Nieves HM3 Thomas Rathbun HM2 Tiffany Thompson HM1(FMF) Robert Nester HM1(SW) Ladonna Taylor HM1 Rodney Taylor HM1 John Preku HM1 Robert Glass HM1(FMF) Eusebio Bawden HM1 Gladys Jenne HM1 Mary Matthews HM1 Doyle McClellan HM2 Amanda Allen HM1 Rex Mangosing HM2(FMF) Eusebio Bawden HM1 Gladys Jenne HM1 Mary Matthews HM1(FMF) Doyle McClellan HM2 Amanda Allen HM1(SW) Rex Mangosing HM2(SW) Tamesha McKinnon HM2(SW) Drew Norman HM2 Sampson Oluwole Lt. Cmdr. Johnetta Wider Lt. Cmdr. Nancy Wilson-Jackson Lt. Carmelo Ayala Lt. David Share Dennis Smith Merrilyn Blair Priscilla Dominado Mary Gay STS1(SW) Scott Engel PS2 Carin Wade

### Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award

Doris Ward Thomas Kearns